

**SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN**  
**FLORAL STREET ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**  
**SPRING 2003**

**DISTRICT MISSION STATEMENT**

*The Shrewsbury Public Schools, in partnership with the community, will  
provide students with the skills and knowledge for the 21<sup>st</sup> century,  
an appreciation of our democratic tradition, and the desire to  
continue to learn throughout life.*

**SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT**

*Working together...*

*Planting the seed of lifelong learning  
Cultivating cooperation, compassion, and confidence  
Building integrity in a respectful community*

*...Our gift to the future*

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**Part I                      SIGNATURE PAGE**

Name	Signature
Co-Chair Joseph M. Sawyer, Principal	
Co-Chair Maribeth Boisvert, Parent	
Karmen Bogdesic, Parent	
Susan Campos, Parent	
Sandra Fryc, Parent	
Debi Hemdal, Parent	
Gina-Marie Kelly, Teacher	
Jane Lizotte, Assistant Principal	
Larry Lynch, Community Representative	
Amy Oddo, Parent	
Deborah Martel, Teacher	
Kathleen Rivenburg, Teacher	
Robert Wilson, Teacher	

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Superintendent of Schools

Date

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**Part II          DEMOGRAPHICS**  
**Enrollment and Class-size Information**

Total Number of Students		909
Total Number of Classrooms		41
Grade/Description	Number of sections	Average Class Size
Half Day Kindergarten		
Full Day Kindergarten		
Grade 1                      130	6	21.7
Grade 2                      208	10	20.8
Grade 3                      188	8	23.5
Grade 4                      191	9	21.2
Grade 5                      192	8	24.0
Grade 6		
Grade 7		
Grade 8		
Foreign Language		
Allied Arts		
Health		
Physical Education		
All Classes 9-12		
Core Classes 9-12		
Electives 9-12		
Grade 9		
Grade 10		
Grade 11		
Grade 12		

Elementary and Middle School data are based on the March 1, 2003 student demographic report, which are submitted to the Massachusetts Department of Education. High School data are based on the October 1, 2001 report presented annually to the School Committee.

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**Student Information**

		Percentage
Native American	4	0%
Black (Non-Hispanic)	17	2%
Asian	120	13%
Hispanic	24	3%
White	738	82%
Title I	83	9%
Special Education	87	10%
Free and Reduced Lunch	54	6%
Limited English Proficient	23	3%

**Faculty and Staff Information**

	Number	FTE
Administrators	2	2
Classroom Teachers	44	41
Instructional Specialists*	22	8.9
Instructional Support**	17	14.7
Instructional Aides	33	29 (16 general, 13 special education)
Secretaries	3	3

\* Music Teachers, Art Teachers, Physical Education Teachers, Technology Integration Specialist, Health Teachers, Spanish Teachers, and ESL Teachers

\*\* Curriculum Specialists, Reading Specialists, Title I Teachers, Media Specialist, School Psychologists, Special Education Teachers, Speech Pathologists, Nurse, Occupational Therapists, Physical Therapists

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**Part III**

**SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS**

The 2002-2003 school year has been a challenging but successful one at Floral Street School. The school expanded significantly, as the fifth grade classes moved to the Middle School where they function as a satellite program of Floral Street School. As a result, the school increased in size from 33 classrooms to 41, and from 770 students to 909. In addition, there are still three first grade sections of students from Floral Street neighborhoods that, due to lack of space, remain at the Beal Early Childhood Center.

While this expansion created a challenging situation, thanks to tremendous work on the part of the Floral staff and outstanding support from the parent community and the school district, Floral Street School continues to provide high quality education for all of its students. Feedback from parent and student surveys revealed that the satisfaction level with the new fifth grade program is high, and the move of fifth grade to the Middle School resulted in maintaining or improving class size at every grade, with the greatest improvement in grades one and two.

There was a change in leadership for the second consecutive year, as Mrs. Jane O. Lizotte took over the role of assistant principal from Mrs. Mary Beth Banios, who was promoted to principal at Spring Street School. Mrs. Lizotte has had a very successful first year. She took the lead in implementing All School Meeting, where the entire school community gathers together biweekly in order to watch student performances, meet special guests, and learn about important topics through student-led skits and songs. All School Meeting has further strengthened our school culture and provided a wonderful forum in which to celebrate learning.

While Floral Street School continued to be academically successful by many measures, it also provided students with many opportunities to learn about compassion through community service. The Fifth Grade participated in the Heifer Project's "Read to Feed" program; Floral students collected over \$2,500 for UNICEF through its Trick-or-Treat program; two successful holiday food drives assisted local pantries, particularly the Worcester County Food Bank; and currently students are collecting comfort items for American troops stationed around the globe, including family members from the Floral community serving in the military.

Floral Street School also continued to partner with parents and with the community to provide enriching experiences for students. In addition to the tremendous financial support for special enrichment programming and volunteering for special family events provided by the PTO, students participated in several other extra learning opportunities. The Gap Junction program provided Fifth Grade students with the opportunity to visit Tufts University School of Veterinary Medicine for four lessons in animal science; Mr. Larry Lynch, School Council Community Liaison, taught Fifth Graders the intricacies of compound interest to emphasize the value of saving money; and Mr. Michael Farmer, Corridor 9 Chamber of Commerce Liaison, taught Fourth Graders the importance of good communication skills and personal presentation in order to become successful.

In addition to the goals outlined in the current School Improvement Plan, time was also spent strengthening the collective vision that the Floral community holds for its school. Through discussions and written feedback from parents, teachers, and students, core

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values were developed that illustrate the school's mission in more detail. While the language is not yet finalized, the working draft reads as follows:

Core Values:

1) At Floral Street School, **everyone will work together** in order to provide the best possible experience for children. Students, educators, and parents and caretakers will:

- Cooperate in order to benefit from everyone's strengths
- Communicate compliments, questions and concerns
- Celebrate successes, both small and large

2) At Floral Street School, students will continue to **develop a positive attitude about learning**. Students will:

- Believe that learning is important and rewarding
- Increase their curiosity about the world
- Understand that learning is a process that never stops

3) At Floral Street School, students will **gain competence and confidence as learners**. Students will:

- Recognize that effort is the most important factor in reaching goals and that they are responsible for their own learning
- Organize and plan in order to meet challenges both independently and cooperatively
- Acquire expected academic skills and knowledge and use these to think critically and to solve problems

4) At Floral Street School, students will **understand and demonstrate respect for themselves, for others, and for their community**. Students will:

- Learn that they are responsible for acting with honesty, integrity, and kindness
- Develop compassion by helping those in need
- Accept others for who they are and value those differences

The School Improvement Plan for 2003-2004 focuses on the same general areas as the previous year's plan, as we are in the midst of multi-year projects. However, specific goals have changed to reflect the progress we have made, to address areas where we did not accomplish what we intended, and to concentrate on important new initiatives (such as the adoption of the new Elementary Report Card). It is our belief that, despite the challenges from an expected reduction in specialist and aide support, Floral Street School will continue to strive for excellence as it seeks to meet the academic, social, and emotional needs of our students.

*~ Floral Street School Council*